

Problems faced by CAG in audit of KG D6 Block

1959. SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CAG's audit of KG-D6 oil and gas Block is being hampered due to the lack of access to the contractor's records; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Ministry to clear the logjam created by the differing stands of the contractors and the CAG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) CAG and RIL have agreed for audit of KG-DWN-98/3 as per provisions of PSC and relevant legal framework. They are in the process of reconciling the differing views on procedure of audit and how the report of audit has to be dealt with.

(b) Ministry of Petroleum has advised RIL to provide access to all records, documents, accounts of the block to CAG as per the contractual provisions.

Checking of LPG Cylinder bursts

1960. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the LPG cylinders which are used in households are prone to frequent bursts, leading to major accidents;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any assessment on the cylinder bursting has been made ;

(d) the number of cylinder bursts taking place every year and the details for the same during last three years;

(e) whether any safeguard measures have been evolved to protect the cylinder bursts;

(f) whether it is a fact that new technology to protect from cylinder bursts and leakages in pipes has been developed in the country by indigenous engineers; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and Government's stand over the introduction of such State of the art technology to protect from cylinder burst cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) The LPG cylinders for domestic and non domestic use are manufactured as per Indian Standard Specifications IS: 3196. The cylinders are manufactured under the certification of the third party inspection agency *i.e.* Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). BIS enforces control over the manufacturing process and all cylinders are checked by hydraulic and pneumatic tests. Burst test of the sample from the lot is also carried out. After ISI marking by BIS, LPG cylinders are sent by manufacturer to LPG bottling plants. All cylinders are again checked at Bottling Plants and only sound cylinders are sent for filling.

LPG cylinders in use are periodically tested for safety as per norms of the Chief Controller of Explosives, PESO.

Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported no accidents caused due to bursting of LPG gas cylinders. However, instances of bursting of LPG cylinders are caused by Improper handling, customer negligence, leakage from rubber tube, usage of non-standard equipment, exposure to intense heat, pressure of flammable materials in customers premises etc.

(f) and (g) There is no new technology developed in the country by indigenous engineers to protect from cylinder burst. However, Multi-functional Regulator (MFR) having features to detect leakage in pipe has been developed, which has salient features like child safety lock, liquid level indication, excess flow shut off and leakage detection in LPG Hose/pipe line. Multi Function Regulator is tested and certified by third party inspection agency and approved by PESO and is similar to domestic pressure regulator as per IS 9798. The MFR has been launched on pilot basis at 5 cities *i.e.* Mumbai, Delhi, Bangaluru, Hyderabad and Pune and its performance is under evaluation.

Roll-back of hike in petrol price

1961. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the decision to hike the price of petrol at a time when inflation is skyrocketing will only add to the burden of the common man;